

AN ACT

relating to the procedures for identifying and notifying relevant federal agencies about certain child abuse and neglect investigations.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 261.301, Family Code, is amended by adding Subsection (j) to read as follows:

(j) In an investigation of a report of abuse or neglect allegedly committed by a person responsible for a child's care, custody, or welfare, the department shall determine whether the person is an active duty member of the United States armed forces or the spouse of a member on active duty. If the department determines the person is an active duty member of the United States armed forces or the spouse of a member on active duty, the department shall notify the United States Department of Defense Family Advocacy Program at the closest active duty military installation of the investigation.

SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act to Section 261.301, Family Code, apply only to a report of abuse or neglect made on or after the effective date of this Act. A report made before that date is governed by the law in effect on the date the report was made, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2124 was passed by the House on April 13, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 134, Nays 4, 3 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2124 was passed by the Senate on May 19, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor